

REMARKS

The application has been amended to overcome the examiner's objections and rejections.

The primary references cited by the examiner were Gulledge Patent #6,601,675 and Lapat Patent # 6,152,424

Claims 1 and 6 were rejected based on the prior patents. The Gulledge patent is for a saw horse not a door frame spreader and the Lapat frame spreader is operated by a screw mechanism.

Claims 2, 3, and 5 were objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 1 was amended to claim specifically the door spreader features of the invention as follows: "a first board and a second board hinged together in longitudinal linear alignment by a pivotable hinge connecting two inner edges of the boards to form a hinged door frame spreader board for horizontal placement at a bottom of a door frame to space two vertical sides of a door frame apart the same distance as a horizontal top of a door frame during installation of a door frame in a structure, each of the boards having an outer edge shape to conform to an inside profile of a side of a vertical door frame member aligned for installation to a wall structure, the hinged door frame spreader board having a pre-set length to provide a desired spreader distance between a pair of sides of a door frame equal to the length of the hinged door frame spreader board, the hinged door frame spreader board being pivotable into an angled configuration to position the hinged door frame spreader board between a pair of vertical sides of a door frame and the hinged

door frame spreader board further being pivotable into a straight linear configuration to contact a bottom of each of a pair of vertical sides of a door frame and maintain a pair of sides of a bottom of a door frame spaced apart by the length of the hinged door frame spreader board while installing a door frame in a wall structure to create an installed frame which matches a door to be installed on the frame."

None of the prior art taken singly or together provide a hinged door frame spreader that is pivotable between a first closed position to install the door frame spreader and a second position with the door frame spreader pivoted open for positioning between a bottom of a door frame to separate the bottom of the vertical sides of the door frame by the same distance as the horizontal top of the door frame during installation of the door frame to create an installed frame which matches a door to be installed on the frame. Therefore the rejections are seen to be overcome and claim 1 is seen to be allowable as amended.

Claims 2-6 depend upon and further limit claim 1, now seen allowable, therefore claims 2-6 are seen to be allowable.

New claim 7 was added combining the language of claims 1 and 2, thereby rewriting claim 2 in independent form including all of the limitations of base claim 1, thereby overcoming the Examiner's objection and making new claim 7 allowable according to the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter.

New claim 8 was added combining the language of claims 1, 4, and 5, thereby rewriting claim 5 in independent form including all of the limitations of base claim 1 and intervening claim 4, thereby overcoming the Examiner's objection and making new claim 8 allowable according to the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, claims 1-8 are seen to be allowable. Reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-8 is respectfully requested.

A Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a) (3 months) and Petition for Extension fee of \$510.00 are attached. No additional fee is seen to be due.

Respectfully submitted,



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